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Presbyterian Church in the  
U.S.A. Synod of New Jersey.  
Minutes of the ... annual  
session of the Synod of New

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M I N U T E S

of the

S Y N O D O F N E W J E R S E Y

for the year ending

October, 1857.





M I N U T E S  
of the  
ANNUAL SESSION  
of the  
SYNOD OF NEW JERSEY  
for the year 1857  
- - - - -

Scranton, Pennsylvania October 20, 1857

The Synod of New Jersey met pursuant to adjournment at 7 o'clock p.m. and was opened with a Sermon from Psalm 119, 15:16 verses, by the Rev. Hugh N. Wilson, D.D. in the absence of the Moderator who was detained at home by sickness.

After public worship the Synod was constituted by prayer by the Rev. Robt. Street the last Moderator present.

Present

From the Presbytery of Elizabethtown

| <u>Ministers</u> | <u>Elders</u>     | <u>Churches</u>   |
|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Dr. Murray       | Ruben Van Pelt    | 1st Elizabethtown |
| Mr. Cory         |                   | Perth Amboy       |
| Mr. English      | Wm. Annin         | Liberty Corner    |
| Mr. Demarest     |                   | 1st Rahway        |
| Mr. Rankin       | Amos Potter       | New Providence    |
| Mr. Reinhardt    | W. B. Alward      | Baskingridge      |
| Mr. Edgar        | Elias Marsh       | Elizabeth Port    |
| Mr. Martin       | Andrew H. Clark   | Westfield         |
| Mr. Mott         | Smith Bloomfield  | 2nd Woodbridge    |
| Mr. Crane        | Henry M. Demarest | 1st Woodbridge    |
|                  | John Van Zandt    | Pluckamin         |

Presbytery of Passaic

| <u>Ministers</u> | <u>Elders</u>   | <u>Churches</u>     |
|------------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| Dr. Magie        | Henry Wecker    | 2nd Elizabethtown   |
| Mr. Williamson   |                 | Mt. Freedom         |
| Mr. Rosenthal    |                 | German Ch. Paterson |
| Mr. Ogden        |                 | Chatham Village     |
| Mr. Street       |                 | Springfield         |
| Mr. Stevenson    |                 | 1st. Morristown     |
| Mr. Hornblower   |                 | 2nd Morristown      |
| Mr. Moore        | Clarke Faitonte | Connecticut Farms   |
| Mr. Irving       | Wm. Stevens     | Mt. Olive           |



Presbytery of Pas.aic (cont)

| <u>Ministers</u> | <u>Elders</u> | <u>Churches</u>           |
|------------------|---------------|---------------------------|
| Mr. Craven       |               | Flanders                  |
| Mr. James        | Henry Hedges  | Chester                   |
| Mr. Markle       | John Crane    | Lyons Farms<br>3rd Newark |

Presbytery of New Brunswick

| <u>Ministers</u> | <u>Elders</u>       | <u>Churches</u>   |
|------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| Dr. Rodgers      |                     | Ewing             |
| Mr. Nassau       |                     | Boundbrook        |
| Mr. Maclean      |                     | 1st New Brunswick |
| Mr. Davidson     | Gorden Vandyke      | Kingston          |
| Mr. H. Hamill    |                     |                   |
| Mr. Hale         |                     | Pennington        |
| Mr. Hall         | Thos. J. Stryker    | 1st Trenton       |
| Mr. Hoover       |                     |                   |
| Mr. White        |                     | Millstone         |
| Mr. Gosman       |                     | Middletown Pt.    |
| Mr. David        |                     | Cedar Creek       |
| Mr. Lill Hamill  | Elias Dye           | 2nd Cranbury      |
| Mr. Carroll      |                     | Red Bank          |
| Mr. Symmes       | T. G. Brearley      | 3rd Trenton       |
| Mr. Crenning     |                     | 1st Princeton     |
| Mr. Armstrong    | John Brearley       | Lawrence          |
| Mr. McLaren      |                     | Titusville        |
|                  | Robt. L. Hutchinson | Hamilton Square   |
|                  | Isaac Luedeker      | Dutch Neck        |
|                  | Andrew M. Duncan    | 1st Cranbury      |

Presbytery of Newton

| <u>Ministers</u>      | <u>Elders</u>   | <u>Churches</u>    |
|-----------------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| Dr. Wilson            |                 | Greenwich          |
| Mr. Tully             |                 | Musconetong Valley |
| Mr. McGee             | John White      | Hackettstown       |
| Mr. Bush              |                 | Stillwater         |
| Mr. Reilly            | Wm. Merrit      | Harmony            |
| Mr. Miller            | Wm. P. Vail     | Hardwick           |
| Mr. H. Reeves         |                 | Marksborough       |
| Mr. Forseman          | Phineas Barber  | Stewartsville      |
| Mr. R. H. Reeves      |                 | Blairstown         |
| Mr. Cattell           | Geo. Creveling  | 1st Mansfield      |
| Mr. Glen              |                 | Upper Mt. Bethel   |
| Mr. Barret            |                 | Stroudsburgh       |
| Mr. James G. Mitchell | J. G. Shipman   | Belvidere          |
|                       | James Hives     | Oxford             |
|                       | Robert Ross     | Lower Mt. Bethel   |
|                       | Wm. W. Race     | Hope               |
|                       | David Neighbour | German Valley      |
| Mr. Samuel Cyphus     |                 | 2nd Mansfield      |



Presbytery of Raritan

| <u>Ministers</u> | <u>Elders</u>     | <u>Churches</u>   |
|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Dr. Kirkpatrick  | James J. Fisher   | Amwell United 1st |
| Dr. Studdiford   |                   | Amwell 2nd        |
| Mr. Hunt, Jr.    | Ashbel Welch      | Lambertville      |
| Mr. Carrell      | Robert C. Stevens | Pleasant Grove    |
| Mr. Janeway      |                   | Clinton           |
| Mr. Spayde       |                   | Frenchtown        |
| Mr. Studdiford   |                   | Amwell 1st        |
|                  | Wm. P. Emery      | Flemington        |
|                  | Geo. Carpenter    | Milford           |

Presbytery of West Jersey

| <u>Ministers</u> | <u>Elders</u> | <u>Churches</u> |
|------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Dr. Jones        |               | Pittsgrove      |
| Mr. Brown        |               | Greenwich       |
| Mr. Cattell      |               | Blackwoodtown   |
| Mr. Annin        |               | Cold Spring     |
| Mr. Hubbard      |               | Salem           |

Presbytery of Susquehanna

| <u>Ministers</u> | <u>Elders</u>  | <u>Churches</u> |
|------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Mr. Corss        | W.M. Betts     | Towanda         |
| Mr. Foster       |                | Wysox           |
| Mr. Colt         |                | Orwell          |
| Mr. Thomas       |                | Silver Lake     |
| Mr. Cook         |                | Rush            |
| Mr. McWilliam    |                | Burlington      |
| Mr. Dewing       |                | Wyalusing       |
| Mr. Armstrong    | O. F. Young    | Rome            |
|                  | Geo. E. Arnout | Monroeton       |
|                  | John R. Wells  | Wyalusing 2nd   |
|                  | Fairly Coburn  | Warren          |
|                  | Robert Clayton | Marhoppen       |

Presbytery of Luzerne

| <u>Ministers</u> | <u>Elders</u>      | <u>Churches</u>     |
|------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| Dr. Lorraine     | L. C. Ansign       | Wyoming             |
| Mr. Hunt         |                    | Wilkesbarre         |
| Mr. Mitchell     |                    | Mehwopeny Creek     |
| Mr. Parke        |                    | Mauch Chunk         |
| Mr. Lane         | Saml. Sherrad      | Scranton            |
| Mr. Osmond       |                    | Summit Hill         |
| Mr. Hickock      |                    | Pittston            |
| Mr. Wells        | Wm. C. Ayres       | Newton              |
| Mr. Johnson      | Harley D. Shemaker | Kingston            |
| Mr. Lourie       |                    | Cenyngham           |
| Mr. Armstrong    |                    | Hazelton            |
| Mr. Snowden      |                    | Beaver Meadow       |
| Mr. Hodge        | Jepe Turner        | Port Carbon         |
| Mr. Moore        |                    | Northmoreland       |
| Mr. Bronson      |                    | Plymouth            |
|                  | Wm. Heip           | German Ch. Scranton |



The roll of the Synod having been called, Rev. John Hall, D.D. was unanimously chosen Moderator and Messrs. Rodger and Hale were chosen Clerks.

Letter from Rev. Mr. Westbrook and Dr. Baird, excuses. Mr. Van Rensselaer, Rev. Charles Hood, Rev. Fred Kington and Mr. Hand sent word also.

Resolved, that it be the order to meet at 9 o'clock a.m.- to adjourn at 12m.- to meet at 2- to adjourn at 5 and to meet at 7 p.m.

Adjourned to meet tomorrow morning at 9 o'clock. Concluded with prayer.

### Wednesday Morning 9 O'clock

Synod met pursuant to adjournment and was opened with prayer- present as before.

Minutes of the last Session of Synod were read.

Dr. George Peck of Wyoming Methodist Conference, etc., Rev. Wm. Home of Synod of Albany- correspondents.

The Minutes of the last meeting of Synod were read and the members now present who were absent from that meeting assigned reasons for such absence which were considered satisfactory.

Committees appointed.

Committee on Bills and overtures had leave to withdraw.

Resolved, that Wm. Rankin, Jr., Treasurer of the Board of Foreign Missions, be heard on the subject of Foreign Missions as connected with the Presbyterian Church at the close of this evenings service.

Rev. James B. Crane of the Presbytery of Elizabethtown received this morning by that Presbytery took his seat.

The Clerk gave notice that an appeal and complaint of Rev. R. S. Finley and S. Bloomfield from a decision of the Presbytery of Elizabethtown was laid on the table and the papers in the case were referred to the Judicial Committee.





Resolved, that the next meeting of Synod be held in the 3rd church in the city of Trenton, New Jersey on the 3rd Tuesday of October 1858 at 3 o'clock p.m. and that the Moderator of Synod, the Rev. J. Kirkpatrick, Jr., the Pastor of the 3rd church Trenton together with Mr. Joseph G. Brearley, Elder be a committee to make arrangements for the religious exercises for the next meeting of the Synod.

Rev. Mr. Hale, Chairman of the committee to draft the narrative of the State of Religion, made a report which having been amended was adopted and ordered to be read by the Chairman at the Synodical Prayer Meeting.

Resolved, that the Stated Clerk be directed to publish the narrative in the New York Observer and the Presbyterian and the Banner.

The committee to make arrangements for the religious exercises of the next meeting of Synod nominated the Rev. Allen H. Brown as the Preacher on Foreign Missions and the Rev. Mr. Gosman as the alternate. The nomination was adopted and Mr. Brown was accordingly appointed.

Committee to examine Minutes of Assembly made a report which was placed on the docket.

Committee of Bills and overtures reported overture No. 1- being a request to transfer the Pastor and church of Pleasant Grove of the Presbytery of Raritan to the Presbytery of Newton. The committee of overtures recommended that the request be granted- and their report was adopted and the request was granted.

Committee of Bills and overtures reported overture No. 2- being a paper on the subject of the Marriage Law from the Presbytery of Passaic for the action of the Synod, pending the consideration of which the Synod adjourned to meet at 2 o'clock. Concluded with prayer.

### 2 O'clock Wednesday

Synod met pursuant to adjournment and was opened with prayer- present as before.

The Minutes of the last Session of Synod were read.

Mr. J. B. Hoyt, Elder from Pittston of the Presbytery of Luzerne appeared in Synod and assigned satisfactory reasons for late attendance.



Committee on Treasurer's Account reported as follows- adopted (on file).

Committee on assessment reported and their report was adopted (on file).

Stated Clerk directed to have the Minutes bound to compare with the volumn now belonging to the Synod.

Invitation from Directors of the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad and of the Bloomsburgh and Lackawanna Railroad to take an excursion in their cars down the Wyoming and Lackawanna Vallies. Accepted.

If compatable with business of Synod, accept invitation of Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad Company to visit their mines and of the Lackawanna Iron and Coal Company to visit their rolling mills on Friday 8:30 p.m.

Motion in reference to Marriage legislation adopted. Committee Dr. Hall, Judge Ira C. Whitehead, Rev. J. N. Ogden and Rev. E. R. Craven.

The Rev. Mr. Foster offered a resolution, etc., whereupon the Moderator decided that the resolution of Mr. Foster, touching the case of Moses Ingalls, could not be entertained.

Presbytery of Newton ordered to meet tomorrow morning at 8:30 o'clock for the transaction of business.

The Rev. Dr. Maclean, President of Princeton College, made an interesting address in regard to the present condition and prospects of that Institution when it was ordered that the college be recommended anew to the sympathies and prayers of the members of this Synod.

The committee on religious exercises made the following report with reference to the Synodical Prayer Meeting

1. The Moderator to state the object of the meeting.
  2. Psalmody by Mr. Irving
  3. Reading S.S. and Prayer by Dr. Studdiford
  4. Reading the narrative by the chairman of the committee appointed to draft it.
  5. Prayer by Mr. Gosman
  6. Psalmody by Mr. Cook
  7. Address by Dr. Magie and Mr. Hornblower
  8. Prayer by Mr. Symmes
- Doxology to be said in conclusion. The report

adopted.



Statistical Reports called for and read (as follows).

Following records approved, Passaic, Raritan, New Brunswick, West Jersey, book of Newton not here and the committee was discharged, book of Burlington not here and the committee was discharged.

Whereas the records of the Presbytery of Burlington have not for some years past been sent up for review, therefore Resolved, that it be enjoined on the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of Burlington to send up the records of said presbytery for review at the next meeting of this Synod.

The Stated Clerk of Synod was directed to send a certified copy of the aforesaid resolution to the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of Burlington.

The Stated Clerk was ordered to send the Statistical Report to the General Assembly.

Rev. Messrs. Fred F. Cornill and Robt. S. Finley of the Presbytery of Elizabethtown, the Rev. Dr. McDonald, Rev. Mr. Duffield, Rev. Mr. DeVearea of the Presbytery of New Brunswick with Mr. Abner Scudder, Elder from the church of Ewing of the same Presbytery and the Rev. Solomon McNair of the Presbytery of Newton appeared in Synod and assigned satisfactory reasons for late attendance.

Mr. T. P. Hunt's resolution laid on the table (file).

The Judicial Committee to whom was referred the appeal and complaint of Mr. Finley and Mr. Bloomfield reported that the papers put in their hands were in order and recommended that the papers be taken up and their consideration proceeded in the following order, viz.,

1. Read the action of Presbytery complained of
2. Read the reasons of the complainants and accompanying documents.
3. Read the proceedings of Presbytery as to No. 1 and No. 2 in order.
4. Hear the original parties, viz., the complainants and the Majority of Presbytery
5. Call roll of Synod.

After some discussion the report was recommitted to the Judiciary Committee.



Synod had a recess for 10 minutes- at the close of the recess Synod proceeded to business.

The Judiciary committee again reported that having examined the papers anew they recommended that the paper presented by Mr. Finley and Bloomfield be regarded as a complaint. The report was adopted.

Synod then adjourned to meet at 7 o'clock p.m. Concluded with prayer.

### Wednesday Evening 7 o'clock

Synod met pursuant to adjournment and the rev. Mr. Craven preached the Sermon on Foreign Missions from Joshua 7th 11th.

Mr. Rankin, Treasurer of the Board of Foreign Missions, made an address to which the Synod listened with great interest.

The Stated Clerk gave notice that an appeal and a complaint against the decision of the Presbytery of Elizabethtown at a meeting held on the 16th of September last had been laid on the table signed by Rev. R. S. Finley and Mr. Smith Bloomfield which was referred to the Judicial Committee.

Synod then adjourned to meet tomorrow morning at 9 o'clock. Concluded with prayer.

### Thursday October 22, 9 O'clock a.m.

Synod met pursuant to adjournment and was opened with prayer- present as before.

The Minutes of the last Session of Synod were read.

Letter from Rev. Dr. Riggs assigning reasons for absence, - received, were satisfactory.

Resolution of Rev. T. M. Hamill on Foreign Missions (see files).

Judicial Committee reported No. 2 see file. Report adopted.

Moderator informed Synod that they were about to sit as a Court of Jesus Christ. Decision of Moderator appealed from in reference to the order, etc., Synod sustained Moderator.





Synod proceeded to hear agreeably to the recommendation of the Judicial Committee

1. The action of the Presbytery of Elizabethtown
2. Reasons of complainants and accompanying documents were read.
3. The complainants heard.

Rev. F. W. Mellick of Synod of Philadelphia invited to sit as correspondent.

Committee on Susquehanna records reported. Report, and that part of the report was referred to the Judicial Committee.

Synod then adjourned to 7 o'clock p.m. Concluded with prayer.

#### Thursday Evening 7 O'clock

Synod met pursuant to adjournment and attended upon the Synodical Prayer Meeting in accordance with the arrangement of the committee except that the Rev. S. M. Hamill was appointed to make an address in the place of Mr. Magie who had obtained leave of absence.

Committee on records of Presbytery of Elizabethtown reported and the consideration of the report was postponed until tomorrow at 10 o'clock.

Committee on records of Presbytery of Luzerne approved with the following exceptions (on file).

Ordered that it be the duty of the Stated Clerk of the Presbyteries of this Synod to subscribe their names to the records of each meeting of Presbytery.

The unfinished business was then taken up, viz., the complaint of the Rev. Mr. Finley against the proceedings of the Presbytery of Elizabethtown. Rev. Mr. Rankin was read on behalf of the Presbytery. The members of the Presbytery were then heard and then the court rose.

Synod then adjourned to meet tomorrow morning at 8 o'clock. Concluded with prayer.

#### Friday Morning 8 O'clock

Synod met pursuant to adjournment and was opened with prayer- present as before.



The Minutes of the last Session of Synod were read.

Committee on leave of absence reported (on file).

Judicial Committee reported on the Susquehanna records (see report on file).

Resolution of thanks (on file).

The unfinished business was then taken up, the complaint, etc. The original parties and the members of the Presbytery having been heard to their full satisfaction and they then withdrew when the Synod proceeded to call the roll in accordance with the rule on that subject in order that the members might have an opportunity of expressing their opinions. The order of the day was further postponed, Elizabethtown Presbytery records. The vote was then taken and the complaint was not sustained.

Mr. Hale gave notice for himself and others of a protest in the case and ordered to be entered in the Minutes of Synod.

T. P. Hunt's resolution.

Susquehanna book approved.

Absence given to Race, Mitchell, J. L. Janeway, Wm. C. Cattell, E. K. Craven.

German Church, Scranton, thanks.

Elizabethtown records approved with exceptions (on file).

Notice was given of appeal and complaint by Rev. Mr. Finley and J. Bloomfield to the next General Assembly.

Janitor's bill paid \$3.- and bill for Stationary to be paid 68 cents.

Mr. Dorrance, Dr. Murray and Mr. Barret were appointed to defend the Synod in the case of the appeal and Resolved, that the calling of the roll be dispersed with.



Synod then adjourned to meet on the 3rd Tuesday of October 1853 at 3 o'clock p.m. in the 3rd church, Trenton, New Jersey.

Concluded with Prayer, Singing and the Benediction.



A P P E N D I X

1. RESOLUTIONS AND IMPORTANT ACTIONS.
2. NARRATIVE OF THE STATE OF RELIGION.
3. PRESBYTERIAL STATISTICAL REPORTS.





1857

No. 1 The following resolutions were proposed and unanimously adopted.

1. Resolved. That while the aspect of the Foreign Missions of our church is indeed dark, and some of our missionary brethren are suffering under adverse Providences and their efforts for the spread of the gospel among the heathen are paralyzed, we rejoice that He who rules in the armies of Heaven will accomplish his own purposes among the inhabitants of the earth and will make even the wrath of man to praise him, while the remainder thereof He will restrain.

2. Resolved. That we record our deep and heartfelt sympathies with our missionary brethren in India in the straitened and trying circumstances in which in the Providence of God they have been placed, and that special and earnest prayer be made to the Great Head of the church for their relief.

3. Resolved. That in this peculiar crisis we have unabated confidence in the wisdom, prudence and general management of our Board of Foreign Missions, and that our church members in the necessary retrenchment consequently on the great embarrassment of the times be urged not to forget the tithes and offerings that should be cast into the treasury of the Lord.

4. Resolved. That in view of the dispensations of an holy God towards the Foreign Missions of our church, it becomes us to examine our short comings--to confess our sins, and to humble ourselves in his sight, that he may lift us up.

5. Resolved. That a copy of the foregoing resolutions be forwarded to the Executive Committee of our Board of Foreign Missions.

6. Resolved. That Mr. Rankin be requested to furnish a copy of the address delivered by him last evening for publication in the Home and Foreign Record and Foreign Missionary and that it be recommended to all the pastors of this Synod to read said address at the monthly concert of prayer.



No. 2 The following protest was then received from the Rev. Mr. Hale for himself and others, and ordered to be entered on the minutes.

We, the subscribers protest against the decision of the Synod of New Jersey, not sustaining the complaint of the Rev. Robert S. Finley and Mr. Smith Bloomfield elder, against the Presbytery of Elizabethtown,

1st, Because in the opinion of your protesters, no Presbytery has a right to interrupt a church session in the exercise of its judicial authority in cases of discipline when they come before Presbytery upon a review of its proceedings or upon a complaint or appeal.

2nd, Because no Presbytery has a constitutional right to dissolve a pastoral relation upon the ground of mere expediency of "general reasons," nor at their discretion but only in the manner prescribed in the form of government, chapter 17, entitled "of resigning a pastoral charge," or as a consequence of an act of discipline for heresy, crime or other causes.

3rd, That the Presbytery had no power to direct the session to call a congregational meeting to consider the dissolution of the pastoral relation, inasmuch as the General Assembly in 1814, decided, (See Baird's Collections, page 62,) that "the sessions of each congregation are to determine under their responsibility to the higher judicatories, when the congregation are prepared to elect a pastor" and in the judgment of your protesters, the session have the same prerogative in reference to the dissolution of a pastoral relation.

George Hale  
James Mc Donald  
John T. Duffield  
Joseph G. Symmes

Ebenezer H. Snowden  
William C. Mc Gee  
N. Grier Parke  
J. Hulsted Carroll

Jesse B. Davis



NARRATIVE OF THE STATE OF FELICITY  
1857

As the skilful artist true to nature, throws upon the canvas a due proportion of the darker shades, so in presenting to the Synod of New Jersey a narrative of the state of religion within its bounds for the year past, fidelity demands the record of facts which are just cause of lamentation as well as of a cheering nature.

Several of the Presbyteries complain of worldliness, spiritual declension and the absence of the special tokens of the divine presence. There exist cases of the entire or partial neglect of daily religious worship in the families of our communion; male members of the church do not attend as they ought, the weekly prayer meetings; the monthly concert of prayer does not, in some places receive the attention it deserves; and some are devoted to the fashions and pleasures of life, to a degree incompatible with a close walk with God.

The cause of Temperance in some sections is stationery--in others on the decline. The social glass on festive occasions is beginning to circulate too freely, and it is feared that there are professors of religion and heads of families, who, in this matter do not set an example that can be safely followed by our youth. There is need of urging on our congregations the Apostolic injunction (originally addressed to bishops and deacons) that they be "not given to wine." As the grand specific for all moral and social evils is the truth of God's word, and as the church is the appropriate agent to administer this remedy, it becomes her solemn duty in her organization capacity as well as through her individual ministers, and members to employ efficient measures that this hindrance to the work of the Lord in the midst of us, maybe taken out of the way.

Though collections are made for all the Boards of our church yet contributions for benevolent objects have not been brought up to a standard commensurate with our ability, with the wants of our own country and the pagan world, and with the high



claims of the great Head of the church. One of the Presbyteries, in its report, says "We do not act as stewards of the means which God has given us; we do not act as men who have professed to consecrate ourselves, all that we have and are to God, for the promotion of his glory, and the salvation of the perishing." Doubtless the same confession might be made by others.

The Board of Publications is not receiving a due share of attention, and as yet the cause of church extension and the fund for disabled ministers, and the families of deceased ministers are not regarded with a degree of interest proportionate to their respective claims. The unusual crisis in the financial world concerning with the Sepoy insurrection which has cost the lives of missionaries, destroyed missionary property, and put an effectual stop to the East India missions, should awaken the enquiry whether God is not administering a rebuke to the Protestant world, and to us in particular, and whether the christian church should not evince her practical repentance of her sins by a more liberal contribution of men and means to the service of the Redeemer.

During the past year, God has been pleased to call up to their reward, three of our number, two of whom greeted us at our last meeting in their wonted health namely the Rev. William Graham of Woodbury in the Presbytery of West Jersey--the Rev. Symes C. Henry D. D. of Granbury, of the Presbytery of New Brunswick, and a beloved father in the ministry, the Rev. Simeon P. Jones of the Presbytery of Susquehanna. These events joyous to them but mournful to us, furnish suitable materials for serious thought on this occasion.

There is much that is gratifying in our condition. Increasing numbers come up to our sanctuaries on the Lord's day and listen with respectful attention to the preaching of the gospel; feeble congregations have been strengthened and have ceased to apply for and to the Board of Domestic missions; churches have been organized some of them self-sustaining from the outset, new houses of worship, for the most part unencumbered





by debt, have been built and dedicated, or are in the process of erection, and a large number of vacant churches have been supplied with pastors. In the Presbytery of New Brunswick eight new pastors have been settled. There has been an aggregate increase in the number of churches and ministers, and in the number of children baptized; and in all the Presbyteries there has been an increase in the number of communicants. Our ministers are generally exemplary, faithful and laborious in their proper work, giving their attention "in season and out of season" to the preaching of the gospel as the divinely appointed means of saving souls, and leaving philosophical speculations, politics and the agitating divisive topics of the day, with all questions of merely secondary importance to be discussed and settled in their appropriate places. Consequently the faith of the churches "stand not in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God", and the people generally are not set at variance by bitter conflicts of opinion, nor borne away by a tide of fanaticism.

There is a decided improvement in the provision made for the support of the ministry, both as to the amount of salary and the erection of parsonage houses; and the conviction is gaining strength among both ministers and people that the pastors relation should be as permanent as possible. This conviction is producing its practical results in the greater stability and general prosperity of the churches. Our Synod presents some happy cases of the long continued union between a pastor and his people. The Presbytery of West Jersey reports an instance in which a venerable father, having served the same congregation nearly fifty years, has now sought retirement from the active duties of the ministry.

In eight out of nine of our Presbyteries there has been an increase in the amounts given for religious purposes. In the Presbytery of Susquehanna, the sum total though small, is doubled that of the last year, and the Presbytery of Luzerne presents us the pleasing example of swelling her contributions to an equivalent of fourteen dollars for each church member. The aggregate contributions of the whole Synod shew an average of about ten dollars for each communicant, that is nearly two hundred thousand dollars for a little less than twenty thousand communicants.



One of the members of this Synod, the Rev. Thomas Spencer Ogden of the Presbytery of New Brunswick, having devoted himself to the work of Foreign Missions, sailed two weeks since, in company with his wife, for Corisco, Western Africa.

By the joint action of the Presbyteries of New Brunswick, West Jersey and Burlington, the region known as the "Pines of New Jersey" has been committed to the general oversight of one of our number, the Rev. Allen W. Brown. Though this work from the peculiar nature of the field, does not advance rapidly, yet it is carried forward wisely, steadily and surely. At Tom's River, in Ocean County, it is believed that one obstacle to the progress of the truth has been removed. In that place, which has been the strong hold of Mormonism in New Jersey, public notice was given in the Mormon Temple, on Sabbath, September 27th that religious worship would from that time cease in that house.

In our other missionary field which is in the "coal region" within the state of Pennsylvania there is most encouraging progress, but on account of its wide extent, and the condition of a large portion of its increasing population, it will, for some time to come, need the fastening care of the church in a supply of men who can "endure hardness as good soldiers of Jesus Christ," and of funds for the support of missionaries and the erection of church edifices.

With regard to our youth--in many of our churches Bible Classes are kept in successful operation, and in nearly all of them the Sabbath Schools are flourishing, and the instruction of children in the Westminster Assembly's catechism is receiving increased attention.

The character of the public schools, especially in New Jersey is greatly improving which is to be ascribed in part to the indirect influence of efforts made by our Board of Education to establish denominational schools, and in part also to the happy operation of the State Normal School located at Trenton. In these schools the Bible is read daily except in cases where there is culpable negligence on the part of parents, or other persons.



A favorable report comes to us from the Newton Collegiate Institute at Newton, and the Presbyterian Academy at Blirstown in the Presbytery of Newton. The Susquehanna Collegiate Institute at Towanda in the Presbytery of Susquehanna; in the Presbytery of Susquehanna; the Luzerna Presbyterian Institute at Wyoming in the Presbytery of Luzerne, and the Wilkesbarre Female Insitute at Wilkesbarre, in the same Presbytery and the West Jersey Academy at Bridgeton in the Presbytery of West Jersey with the several Parochial Schools within our bounds are doing successfully their appropriate work. There are in addition to these, under the control of clerical members of this Synod, or communicants of our church literary insitutions of a high character for each of the sexes which are conducted on Christian principles, and are doing an important work for the right training of our youth.

In the theological seminary at Princeton, there are one hundred and twenty students preparing for the ministry. The excellent men who have in charge this school of the prophets, are proving by the annual results of their instructions, that they can prepare for the service of the church good biblical scholars, sound theologians, and acceptable preachers of the word, while by their labors in the pulpit and through the press their "praise is in all the churches."

The College of New Jersey at Princeton has received an accession of more than one hundred students during the present season. In the able faculty of this institution we have ample ground for the assurance that it will continue to grow in public favor, and that by making science the hand maid of religion, and this college in particular a fountain of good to the Presbyterian Church, they will keep steadily in view the original design of its pious founders.

In quite a number of our congregations there is at this time a hopeful seriousness and anxious enquiry, and during the year several have been blessed with the reviving influences of the Holy Spirit, the result of which has been a considerable accession to the communion of the church by profession.



Among these may be mentioned the churches of Pittston in the Presbytery of Luzerne--Upper Mount Bethel in the Presbytery of Newton--Allentown in the Presbytery of Burlington, and Springfield in the Presbytery of Passaic. Precious seasons of grace have been enjoyed in the Second Church, New Brunswick--the Second church, Trenton, and by those of Titusville and Millstone in the Presbytery of New Brunswick--Revivals of still greater power have been experienced by the churches of Manalapan, Jamesburgh, and First Cranberry in the same Presbytery. With regard to the last, as it is now in progress, we quote from the narrative furnished by the Presbytery of New Brunswick. "In the providence of God, the First Church of Cranberry was destitute of the regular ministrations of the word, but a short time after the death of Dr. Henry. Upon the whole congregation, he had so long served, his death produced a deep impression which was manifest in an unusually large and solemn attendance upon the means of grace. Additions were made to the church at each monthly meeting of the session until the first of October, when forty seven had been received on a profession of faith. And at this time there are scarcely any individuals in the congregation who are not unusually impressed on the subject of their soul's salvation. It is worthy of mention that these results were secured through the blessings of the spirit of God, by the ordinary means of grace and pastoral visitation from house to house.

Having had such manifestations of our covenant God, let us take courage. Notwithstanding the many evils that are to be deplored both within the church and without its pale, there are yet more than seven thousand among us that have not bowed the knee to Baal whose bright example, steady faith, unobtrusive labors, and mighty wrestlings with the angel of the Covenant, will yet send up their report to our future annual assemblies in the record of multitudes who have been turned to righteousness. With humiliation for our sins, let us join thanksgivings for our mercies, and let us without ceasing pray that "God would stay his avenging arm and send down more abundantly his Holy Spirit upon us..that his way may be known upon earth, his saving health among all nations."





PRESBYTERIAL  
STATISTICAL REPORTS  
1857

1. The Presbytery of Elizabethtown report to the Synod of New Jersey that they consist of 25 Ministers, and have under their care 18 Churches, 2 Licentiates and 4 Candidates.

The Presbytery further report that on the 22nd of April 1857, they received the Rev. Frederic F. Cornell from the South classis of New York of the Reformed Dutch Church--the Rev. J. Abeel Baldwin from the Presbytery of Donegal--and the Rev. William Demarest, from the classis of New Brunswick, of the Reformed Dutch Church--that on the same day they dissolved the pastoral relation between the Rev. Lewis Bond, and the 1st Church of Plainfield--and dismissed Mr. Joseph Jennison a licentiate under their care to put himself under the care of the Presbytery of Philadelphia--that on the 23rd of April they licensed Messrs. Samuel Mc Elhinny and James Brewster to preach the gospel, and on the same day dismissed the Rev. Charles Milne to join the Presbytery of Albany--that on the 12th of May, they installed the Rev. J. Abeel Baldwin, pastor of the church of New Providence, and on the 19th of the same month, they installed the Rev. Frederic F. Cornell pastor of the church of Pluckamin--that on the 6th of October, they received the Rev. James H. McNeill from the Presbytery of Orange--that on the 8th of October, they received the Rev. Elias S. Schenk from the Presbytery of Bedford--and on the same day dissolved the pastoral relation between the Rev. Robert S. Finley and the 2nd Church of Woodbridge, and that on the 21st of October, (this day) they received the Rev. James B. Crane from the Hartford South Association. And the Presbytery further report that all their churches have contributed to the different Boards of the Assembly--except that the churches of Plainfield, Perth Amboy and New Vernon have failed as to the Board of Publication.

By order of Presbytery.  
JAMES T. ENGLISH, Stated Clerk.



2. The Presbytery of Passaic report to the Synod of New Jersey that they consist of 18 Ministers, and have under their care 14 Churches, 3 Licentiates and 3 Candidates.

The Presbytery further report that on the 22nd of October 1856, the pastoral relation between the Rev. George M. S. Blauvelt and the church of Chester was dissolved, and on the same day Mr. Blauvelt was dismissed to join the Milwaukee Convention--that on the 29th of December, Mr. Frank Chandler a licentiate, was dismissed to put himself under the care of the Presbytery of New Brunswick--that on the 22nd of January 1857, the Rev. Luther Halsey D. D. was dismissed to put himself under the care of the Presbytery of New Brunswick--and that on the same day Messrs. Lewis C. Baker, William C. Roberts, and William E. Westervelt were licensed to preach the gospel--that on the 8th of July Mr. Josiah Markes, a licentiate was received from the classis of Albany--and on the same day ordained to the work of the gospel ministry, and installed pastor of the church at Chester, and that on the 7th of October, Mr. David H. Pierson, a licentiate under their care, was ordained to the work of the gospel ministry, as an Evangelist.

Respectfully submitted.  
By order of Presbytery.  
ROBERT STREET, Stated Clerk.

3. The Presbytery of New Brunswick report to the Synod Of New Jersey that they consist of 55 Ministers, and have under their care 31 Churches, 4 Licentiates and 7 Candidates.

The Presbytery further report that on the 21st of October 1856, they received the Rev. Thomas D. Hoover from the Presbytery of Winchester--that on the 13th of January 1857, they received Mr. Henry R. Avery, a licentiate from the Presbytery of Philadelphia--and Mr. Frank Chandler a licentiate from the



the Presbytery of Passaic--that on the same day they received under their care, as a candidate for the ministry, Mr. James W. Larimore--that on the 20th of January they ordained Mr. Henry R. Avery a licentiate under their care to the work of the gospel ministry and installed him pastor of the church at Squan Village--that on the 3rd of February they installed the Rev. Thomas D. Hoover, pastor of the 2nd Church at Cranberry--that on the 14th of February they dismissed Mr. Henry T. Bowers a licentiate to put himself under the care of the Presbytery of Louisiana--that on the 22nd of March, the Rev. Symmes C. Henry D. D. pastor of the 1st Church, Cranberry, departed this life--that on the 26th of April, they dismissed the Rev. William Hamilton to join the classis of Orange, of the Reformed Dutch Church--that on the 29th of April, they licensed Messrs. William House and Thomas S. Ogden to preach the gospel--that on the 6th of May, they organized a church in the village of Hightstown--that on the 19th of May, they ordained Mr. Frank Chandler, a licentiate under their care to the work of the gospel ministry and installed him pastor of the village church, Freehold--and that on the same day they received under their care, Mr. Donald McLaren, a licentiate from the Associate Reformed Presbytery of Caledonia, and Mr. John L. Kehoc, a licentiate from the Presbytery of Albany--that on the 20th of May they ordained Mr. Amzi L. Armstrong, a licentiate under their care, to the work of the gospel ministry and installed him pastor of the church at Dutch Neck--and on the same day received the Rev. Joseph G. Symmes from the Presbytery of Madison--that on the 26th of May they installed Mr. Symmes pastor of the 1st Church, Cranbury--that on the 29th of June, they received under their care, Mr. David Cole, as a candidate for the gospel ministry--that on the 30th of June, they received under their care, Mr. John L. Kehoc, a licentiate under their care to the work of the gospel ministry and installed him pastor of the church of Manalapan--that on the 1st of July, they ordained Mr. Donald McLaren a licentiate under their care to the work of the gospel ministry and installed him pastor of the church of Freehold--that on the 13th of July, they dissolved the



pastoral relation between the Rev. Eli F. Cooley D. D. and the church of Ewing--that on the 18th of August, they ordained Mr. Thomas S. Ogden, a licentiate under their care, to the work of the gospel ministry as an Evangelist, he being about to sail as a missionary to Africa under the care of the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions--and that on the same day they dismissed Mr. William House a licentiate to put himself under the care of the Presbytery of Londonderry--that on the 5th of October they received Mr. A. Prentiss de Veuve, a licentiate from the Presbytery of New York, and on the same day took under their care as candidates for the gospel ministry Messrs. Isaac M. Patterson, Nathaniel McConaughy and Philip S. Caffrey--that on the 15th of October they ordained Mr. A. Prentiss de Veuve, a licentiate to the work of the gospel ministry, and installed him pastor of the church of Ewing--and on the same day dissolved the pastoral relation between the Rev. Charles H. Foote, and the 2nd church of New Brunswick.

All which is respectfully submitted.

By order of Presbytery,

A. D. WHITE, Stated Clerk.

4. The Presbytery of Newton report to the Synod of New Jersey that they consist of 23 Ministers, and have under their care 25 Churches.

The Presbytery further report that on the 28th of April, 1657, they dismissed the Rev. Gershon Goble to connect himself with the Presbytery of Montgomery, in the Synod of Virginia--that on the 29th of April they dismissed Mr. Samuel Galloway a licentiate to put himself under the care of the Presbytery of Charleston--that on the 14th of July they received Mr. James Y. Mitchell a licentiate from the Presbytery of Philadelphia and on the same day ordained him to the work of the ministry--and on the 26th of July installed him pastor of the church of Phillipsburgh--and that on the 6th of October, they dismissed the Rev. Smith Sturges to connect himself with the classis of New Brunswick of the Reformed Dutch Church.

Respectfully submitted.

By order of Presbytery.

H. N. WILSON, Stated Clerk.





5. The Presbytery of Morristown report to the Synod of New Jersey that they consist of 10 Ministers, and have under their care 17 Churches, 1 Licentiate and 3 Candidates.

The Presbytery further report that on the 11th of November 1856, they installed the Rev. Henry W. Spayd, pastor of the church of Forestville in connection with that of Solebury. that on the 21st of April 1857, they dissolved the pastoral relation between the Rev. Samuel F. Porter and the churches of Kingwood and Frenchtown--that on the 5th of May they dissolved the pastoral relation between the Rev. Samuel M. Osmond and the United First and Second Churches of Arwell--that on the 16th of June, they dissolved the pastoral relation between the Rev. Jacob Kirkpatrick D. D. and the Second Church of Arwell, and that on the 7th of October they licensed Mr. William C. Wells, a candidate under their care to preach the gospel.

Respectfully submitted.  
By order of Presbytery.  
P. O. STUDDIFORD, Stated Clerk.

6. The Presbytery of Susquehanna report to the Synod of New Jersey that they consist of 11 Ministers, and have under their care 21 Churches and 1 Candidate.

The Presbytery further report that on the 20th of November, 1856, they dismissed the Rev. Henry L. Deolittle to join the Presbytery of Northumberland--that on the 27th of January 1857, they received Mr. Stephen A. Califf, under their care, as a candidate for the ministry--that on the 28th of January 1857, they received the Rev. Thomas L. Dewing from the Presbytery of Cedar--the Rev. John White from the Presbytery of Baltimore, and Mr. Hallock Armstrong a licentiate from the Presbytery of Buffalo City--that on the 29th of January, they ordained Mr. Hallock Armstrong to the work of the gospel ministry as an Evangelist--that on the 17th of March, they dissolved the pastoral relation between the Rev. Philander Camp and the



church of Canton--that on the 12th of March the Rev. Simeon E. Jones departed this life--that on the 26th of August, they dissolved the pastoral relation between the Rev. Lucius W. Chapman and the church of Wyalusing--and on the same day dismissed Mr. Chapman to join the Presbytery of Milwaukee--and the Rev. John White to join the Presbytery of Luzerne--and that on the 27th of August they changed the name of the church of Dushore to that of Sullivan.

Respectfully submitted.  
By order of Presbytery.  
JULIUS POSTER, Stated Clerk.

7. The Presbytery of Luzerne report to the Synod of New Jersey that they consist of 19 Ministers, and have under their care 25 Churches, 6 licentiates and 5 Candidates.

The Presbytery further report that on the 20th of December 1856, they received the Rev. W. W. Parsons from the Presbytery of Buffalo City, and dismissed Mr. Charles Collins a licentiate to put himself under the care of the Presbytery of Northumberland--that on the 4th of January 1857, they organized the church of Fillmore--that on the 21st of April, they received under their care Mr. J. Aspinwald Hodge a licentiate from the Presbytery of Philadelphia--and that on the following day, they ordained him to the work of the gospel ministry, and installed him pastor of the church of Mauch Chunk--that on the 12th of May, they dismissed Mr. A. D. L. Jewett a licentiate to put himself under the care of the classis of Paramus of the Reformed Dutch Church--that on the 21st of July, they received under their care the Mr. William Moore a licentiate from the Presbytery of Nassau--and that on the following day they ordained him to the work of the gospel ministry and installed him pastor of the church of Wyoming--that on the same day, (July 23d) they received under their care Mr. Benjamin



C. Dorrance a candidate for the ministry from the Presbytery of Transylvania and licensed him to preach the gospel--that they also received on the 22d of July, Mr. Herman Veith a licentiate from the Consistory of Hesse, Darmsted--Mr. David Jones and Mr. Henry F. Hickok as candidates for the ministry, and dissolved the pastoral relation between the Rev. Jonathon Osmond and the church of Newton, and directed that the name of the Central Church of Pottsville be stricken from their roll--that on the 15th of September, they received the Rev. John F. Baker to join the Presbytery of Cherokee, and directed that the name of the church of Donaldson be stricken from their roll--and that on the 20th of September, they organized the 2nd church of Pottsvills.

Respectfully submitted.  
By order of Presbytery.  
K. GRIM PARKS, Stated Clerk.

8. The Presbytery of West Jersey report to the Synod of New Jersey that they consist of 17 Ministers, and have under their care 21 Churches and 1 Candidate.

The Presbytery further report that on the 5th of November 1856, they installed the Rev. P. B. Heroy, pastor of the 2nd Church of Bridgeton--that on the 1st of December, they organized a church at Cape May Court House--that on the 3rd of December, they ordained Mr. P. A. Mc Martin, a licentiate under their care to the work of the gospel ministry and installed him pastor of the church of Cape Island--that on the 18th of December, the Rev. William Graham pastor of the church of Woodbury, departed this life--that on the 21st of April 1857, they dismissed the Rev. Paul E. Stevenson to join the Presbytery of Passai--and on the same day received the Rev. Samuel J. Baird from the Presbytery of Iowa--that on the 26th of April, they dissolved the pastoral relation



between the Rev. Peter B. Heroy and the 2nd church of Bridgeton--that on the 5th of May, they installed the Rev. Samuel J. Baird pastor of the church of Woodbury--that on the 5th of August they received under their care Mr. Joseph W. Hubbard a licentiate from the Presbytery of New York, and on the same day ordained him to the work of the gospel ministry, and installed him pastor of the 2nd church of Bridgeton--that on the 5th of October, they dismissed the Rev. Joseph Rogers to join the Presbytery of Raritan and the Rev. Peter B. Heroy to join the Presbytery of Bedford--and that on the 7th of October they dissolved the pastoral relation between the Rev. George W. Janvier and the church of Pittsgrove and the pastoral relation between the Rev. P. A. Mc Martin and the church at Cape Island.

All which is respectfully submitted.  
By order of Presbytery.  
ALLEN H. BROWN, Stated Clerk.

9. The Presbytery of Burlington report to the Synod of New Jersey that they consist of 7 Ministers, and have under their care 9 Churches.

The Presbytery further report that there have been no ecclesiastical changes to be reported during the year elapsed since the last meeting of the Synod.

Respectfully submitted.  
By order of Presbytery.  
SAMUEL HILL P., Stated Clerk.











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